

Learning from Home Parent Guide



Morale Purpose

At Port Kennedy Primary School every child is given opportunities to be their best and experience personal excellence.



Port Kennedy Primary School

Independent Public School

Learning from Home - Parent Guide

Rationale

The unprecedented events of 2020 have changed the way education is being delivered in the short term. This document outlines what it will look like for those of you learning from home, through materials supplied by staff at Port Kennedy Primary School. The following information reflects our Moral Purpose and School Values which we believe set students up for success. In the development of this approach, consideration has been given to all of our families with the understanding that a 'blanket' approach will not necessarily deliver the best opportunities for all.

Teaching staff have spent time working together to plan activities to address areas of the curriculum for each year level. Where necessary, individual students will have been provided resources to better cater for their needs. Teaching staff have identified areas of the curriculum that we see as being best suited for this mode of teaching. As it is at school, the focus of teaching and learning time will be allocated to Literacy and Numeracy.

Our Guiding Principles for Learning at Home are:

- Student wellbeing and relationships. We pride ourselves on making positive connections and relationships with students and families. This will continue as part of Learning at Home, and although it will look different our focus will be on ensuring children are still connected to their school. At this time of change and uncertainty, the health and wellbeing of students and their families should remain the priority in each household. It is important that parents and caregivers are given flexibility to make this work for them.
- We will focus on the continued development of Literacy and Numeracy. The foundations of Literacy and Numeracy are crucial to future learning. Our Learning from home plan will be centred around embedding and applying literacy and numeracy concepts.
- We are all learning. This is a new experience for all involved. Our school team, including school leaders, teaching staff and support staff are all aiming to make this as positive as possible for students and families. Similarly, children and their families will be doing their best to engage and support the school. There will be times where we don't all get it right or wish we had done better, but we need to remember this is a partnership.
- Each family has their own unique set of circumstances as do individual staff. It is important that we are flexible to get the most out of this situation.

Routines

Routines are even more important at the moment, particularly sleep routines. For each family this will look different, however we recommend setting up some form of timetable with your children to enable them to stay motivated and ensure they can fit in all the aspects of their day that are important.

Please refer to the example timetable sent out in the Learning Packs Delivered in Term 1 if you would like some guidance. Your child's classroom teacher can also provide you with some guidance if necessary.

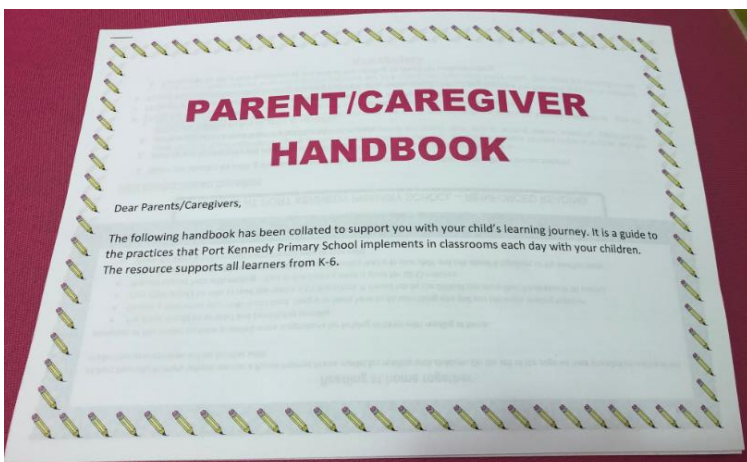
Supporting Parents as Partners in Learning

As parents you are not expected to take the place of teachers however you will have further opportunity, beyond those already in place, to become active partners in your child/ren's learning.

Our Learning Packs are aimed to provide structure, resources and support materials to assist parents and carers in delivering curriculum resources from home.

Classroom teachers will provide instructional videos or 'scripts' where appropriate to enable you to assist your child in learning. Classroom teachers will be available to answer questions and provide advice along the journey.

In the initial learning pack, there was a document titled Parent/Carer Handbook. This has some great tips in supporting your child in their literacy learning and is based on the approaches that we use at school.



What Families Will Receive

Families were provided with a learning pack at the end of Week 8 of Term 1. This learning pack provided students with a range of activities that could be completed at home with the assistance of an adult. The Activity Board provided, included a range of curriculum linked activities that can be repeated or modified to embed, practice or re-teach concepts.

In Term 2, families will be provided with new learning packs, accompanied by a four-week plan. This will outline in more detail what content is being looked at and will also include some teaching tools such as a video tutorial or lesson instructions. We will be planning for 2-3 hours of literacy and numeracy content per day for four days a week. Friday will be assigned to specialist areas on a rotating roster.

Overview for Upcoming weeks

School Holidays – Children need a break from structured learning. Continue to read, play games, encourage creativity and curiosity. Do not engage with the learning packs.

Term 2

Weeks 1 – Continue on with initial learning packs. Communicate with your child’s teacher if you require support or additional activities. Learning Pack 2 will be provided at the end of Week 1.

Weeks 2-5 – This four-week plan will provide details on the curriculum covered and resources to support you at home.

Weeks 6-9 – Learning Pack 3 will be provided at the end of week 5. This four-week plan will provide details on the curriculum covered and resources to support you at home.

Weeks 10 – Term Review and plans set up for Term 3 if necessary.

Example of weekly content. This will vary depending on year level.

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|----------|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---|
| Literacy | 1 – 1.5 hours | 1 – 1.5 hours | 1 – 1.5 hours | 1 – 1.5 hours | Rotating activities to be provided by Science, Music, Languages and Phys Ed where appropriate |
| Numeracy | 1 – 1.5 hours | 1 – 1.5 hours | 1 – 1.5 hours | 1 – 1.5 hours | |
| Health | 1- 2 hours across the week | | | | |

Communication with Families

Communication will be a key element of continuing a connection between families and our school.

Each individual staff member may have a different working scenario. Some staff may be based on site while some may be working from home. Due to this we have decided on the following parameters in regards to communication.

- Staff will not be contactable around the clock and most will stick to the hours of 9:00-3:00 as they will have other school based commitments during the working day. If there are times more suitable for individual teachers, your child's teacher will inform you. Staff are very keen to be available for you, however we need to ensure they maintain a work/life balance.
- You will be contacted at least once a week via Class Dojo, email or telephone as part of a check in or update. If you have questions or need support with learning, your child's classroom teacher will be available to answer or set up a meeting to discuss.
- We are aware that this can all be very overwhelming, so our communication will be largely guided by individual parent/family needs.
- Classroom teachers will be trialling some technology to enable a 'web conference' style communication with students.
- There will be a regular school wide update via either our news feed or via email outlining any changes, as well as providing some good news stories of what is happening across our community in regards to home learning.
- If your child has been working with our School Chaplain, then you will be contacted as part of her role.

Student Wellbeing

We have a number of staff who will be providing additional support in the area of student wellbeing

Defence Force Mentor – Gill Lofthouse will be conducting regular check ins with families linked to the Australian Defence Force. She will also liaise with teaching staff where necessary to ensure students are receiving the assistance required.

Chaplain – Marlize, our school chaplain is in contact with the school administration team and families ensure that we are in a position to best support individual students and families. If Marlize has been working with children this year contact will be made at regular intervals.

Aboriginal and Islander Education Officer (AIEO) – Lee-Anne Hay our AIEO will be in contact with our indigenous families regularly to check in and offer support where needed.

School Psychologist - Students and families currently engaged with Kate Hanley, School Psychologist will receive communication and check ins as necessary to support any ongoing needs.

If you have any concerns in regards to your child's wellbeing, please speak to your child's classroom teacher and we will ensure the best support is available.

There are also some useful resources available on Department of Education – Learning at Home link on the following page.

Resources

Additional Activities can be found at <https://www.education.wa.edu.au/learning-at-home>

These resources cover curriculum activities as well as resources on the following topics:

| | |
|---|---|
| General information | ▼ |
| Best hygiene practice | ▼ |
| Tips for discussing coronavirus (COVID-19) with your children | ▼ |
| Building resilience | ▼ |
| Coping with stress and anxiety | ▼ |
| Coping with loss and grief | ▼ |
| Parenting resources | ▼ |



Student health and wellbeing

Support for children during COVID-19. Your child's health and wellbeing can be influenced by what's happening and the actions people take.



COVID-19 support services and resources

There are many resources available to support you and your children to maintain a positive sense of wellbeing during this time.



Other support services

In addition to support services available through us, we encourage you and your family to access these services if you require urgent support.



Taking care of yourself

It is important during this time that adults take time to look after themselves so they can look after children.



Set up a learning environment

When learning at home, one of the first activities you might like to do with your child is to plan and then create your home learning environment.



Support for children and young people

During these difficult times, maintaining a positive wellbeing may be a challenge.

Class Dojo – Signup sheet

Exciting and important news :)



Our class is using ClassDojo!

Hi parents,

This year I'm using ClassDojo to encourage important skills, like working hard and participating. I'll also use it to communicate with you: we can instantly share messages, updates and photos from class. It's the easiest way for you to see how your child is doing at school and to get in touch with me.

I'd like all families to join me and sign up for ClassDojo! You can use it on any device: it is a **simple, free mobile app** for iOS and Android, and can also be used from a computer at: www.classdojo.com.

I will need your cell number or email to invite you to ClassDojo. Our class goal is for every family to **fill out and return the slip below by tomorrow!** Feel free to ask me any questions.

Thank you so much!

Learn more about ClassDojo!

Used by teachers in 1 in every 2 schools, ClassDojo is the most popular classroom management app in the U.S. Find out more about why we're excited to use ClassDojo, and how it is safe and simple for everyone:

www.classdojo.com/LearnMore

www.classdojo.com/PrivacyCenter



Please send me my invitation to ClassDojo

Student name: _____

Your name: _____

Your cell number
OR email: _____